

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: BICENTENNIAL SCIENCE PROGRAM

1. AS PART OF U.S. ARMY OFFICIAL BICENTENNIAL PROGRAM, THE U.S. ARMY RESEARCH OFFICE IN RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK IN NORTH CAROLINA IS ORGANIZING A SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (AGES 17-22) FROM THE U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES. PROGRAM IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 13-27 THIS YEAR. IT INCLUDES LECTURES, SEMINARS AND VISITS TO LABORATORIES IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK ALONG WITH BICENTENNIAL VISIT TO PHILADELPHIA. GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY AND NUMEROUS GOVERNMENTAL AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE COOPERATING. APPROXIMATELY 75 PARTICIPANTS EXPECTED FROM ABROAD FROM ELEVEN COUNTRIES INCLUDING EGYPT, MEXICO, THAILAND, SO. AFRICA AND WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

2. CONFERENCE COORDINATOR DONALD ROLLINS HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR OUT-

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OF-SCHOOL SCIENCE ACTIVITIES (BRUSSELS HQS.) IN PREPARING

THIS PROJECT AND SIMILAR PROJECTS IN PAST YEARS. CO-ORDINATOR HAS BEEN COUNTING ON PARTICIPATION OF LJUBLJANA UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR ZAGAR MARJAN WHO IS PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE. MARJAN HAS PREPARED A PAPER ON CONTRIBUTION OF YUGOSLAV PEOPLES TO DEVELOPMENT OF

USA TO BE DELIVERED AT MEETING. HOWEVER MARJAN RECENTLY INFORMED CONFERENCE COORDINATOR THAT YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT HAS WITHDRAWN PERMISSION TO MAKE TRIP PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF A MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT STATUS OF PROJECT.

3. MISUNDERSTANDING APPARENTLY OCCURRED WHEN INTERNATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE WAS ASKED ABOUT EVENT. LONG TIME KNOWLEDGEABLE DIRECTOR WATTIER HAD RECENTLY DIED, AND HIS SUCCESSOR SUPPLIED TO YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT A COPY OF LETTER FROM U.S. EMBASSY STOCKHOLM TO A SWEDISH SCIENTIST WHICH MISTAKENLY DOWNGRADED THE EVENT. (CONFERENCE COORDINATOR BELIEVES NORTH CAROLINA BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE WHICH HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED ABOUT PROJECT WAS SOURCE OF NEGATIVE REACTION.)

4. MARJAN BEING ADVISED BY CABLE BY CONFERENCE COORDINATOR TO RE-OPEN QUESTION WITH YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT AND TO BE IN TOUCH WITH PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE AT ZAGREB AND BELGRADE. HIS ADDRESS IS PRIJATELJEVA 11, 61 000 LJUBLJANA.

5. REQUEST EMBASSY FACILITATE PROFESSOR MARJAN'S VISIT TO U.S. IN ANY APPROPRIATE WAY, MOST USEFULLY BY CONFIRMING TO YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT (MARJAN CAN SUPPLY HIS POINT OF CONTACT) THAT THIS SCIENCE EDUCATION PROJECT IS AN OFFICIAL BICENTENNIAL EVENT. KISSINGER

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